

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Wednesday, May 3, 2000

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GUTKNECHT).

## DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
May 3, 2000.

I hereby appoint the Honorable GIL GUTKNECHT to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

## PRAYER

The Rabbi Israel Zoberman, Congregation Beth Chaverim, Virginia Beach, Virginia, offered the following prayer:

Our God of freedom and responsibility, Dear Legislators, at this sacred season of both remembrance and rejoicing, haunted by the Holocaust's vast tragedy, while inspired by the miracle of Zion restored, I humbly yet proudly stand before you, son of Polish survivors who was born in Kazakhstan in 1945, lived in a displaced persons' camp in Germany and raised in Haifa, Israel.

May we be mindful of our divine mandate to build a world community reflecting the universal God of love who embraces us all with Shalom's holy gifts of healing, hope and harmony.

Grateful for our Nation's essential leadership and sacrifice with Your own invaluable input, and my Congressman OWEN PICKETT's distinguished service, may we ever, one family, strive to be a blessing.

Let us say, Amen.

## THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

## MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 3642. An act to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Charles M. Schulz in recognition of his lasting artistic contributions to the Nation and the world.

H.R. 3707. An act to authorize funds for the construction of a facility in Taipei, Taiwan suitable for the mission of the American Institute in Taiwan.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a concurrent resolution of the following title in which concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 81. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the Government of the People's Republic of China should immediately release Rabiya Kadeer, her secretary, and her son, and permit them to move to the United States if they so desire.

The message also announced that pursuant to sections 276h-276k, of title 22, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following Senators as members of the Senate Delegation to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group Meeting during the Second Session of the One Hundred Sixth Congress, to be held in Puebla, Mexico, May 5-7, 2000—

The Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI); and

The Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS).

## MAKING IN ORDER MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES ON TODAY

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time on Wednesday, May 3, 2000 for the Speaker to entertain motions to suspend the rules and pass the following bills:

H. Con. Res. 295, relating to continuing human rights violations and political oppression in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam 25 years after the fall of South Vietnam to Communist forces;

H. Res. 464, expressing the sense of Congress on international recognition of Israel's Magen David Adom Society and its symbol the Red Shield of David;

H. Con. Res. 304, expressing the condemnation of the continued egregious violations of human rights in the Republic of Belarus, the lack of progress toward the establishment of democracy and the rule of law in Belarus, calling on President Alyaksandr Lukashenka's regime to engage in negotiations with the representatives of the opposition and to restore the constitutional rights of the Belarusian people, and calling on the Russian Federation to respect the sovereignty of Belarus;

H.R. 3879, Sierra Leone Peace Support Act of 2000;

H. Res. 449, congratulating the people of Senegal on the success of the multiparty electoral process;

S. 2323, Worker Economic Opportunity Act;

H.R. 4055, IDEA Full Funding Act of 2000;

H.R. 1729, to designate the Federal facility located at 1301 Emmet Street in Charlottesville, Virginia, as the "Pamela B. Gwin Hall";

H.R. 1405, to designate the Federal building located at 143 West Liberty Street, Medina, Ohio, as the "Donald J. Pease Federal Building"; and

H.R. 1901, to designate the United States border station located in Pharr, Texas, as the "Kika de la Garza United States Border Station".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nevada?

There was no objection.

## FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, the Treasury Department recently announced that due to Congressional fiscal responsibility, it expects to reduce the national debt by a record \$216 billion this year.

Furthermore, this means that the national debt will have been reduced by \$350 billion or 10 percent in just 3 years.

The 2001 Republican budget continues this fiscal responsible trend.

Our budget will pay off more than \$1 trillion of the public debt over the next 5 years without raiding Social Security trust fund or bankrupting Medicare.

The Clinton administration, however, has proposed a budget full of new programs and additional bureaucracy, all funded from the projected surplus or new tax increases.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.